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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week
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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

4-27-1956

Dodds, George S. family television script

Howard Langfitt

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W L B T

[Dodd, George S.]

CONTINUITY

FOR Farm Family of the Week

DATE Fri. April 27, 1956

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

SLIDE FARM-1
HOUSE

SLIDE FARM-2
HITCHING BLOCK

AUDIO

I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO MR. E.E. RANDLE, COUNTY AGENT IN COPIAH COUNTY FOR HIS VERY WONDERFUL HELP IN SELECTING THE FAMILY AND OBTAINING THE STORY OF THE FAMILY WE SALUTE TODAY AS OUR FARM FAMILY OF THE WEEK. THIS IS THE STORY OF A FATHER AND A SON. IT IS THE STORY OF MR. AND MRS. GEORGE S. DODD WHO LIVE ON THE BARLOW ROAD 13 MILES WEST OF HAZELEURST, MISSISSIPPI, AND OF HIS SON WHO LIVES ON THE FARM AND WORKS THE SOIL AND CARES FOR THE CROPS AND LIVESTOCK WITH HIS FATHER. THIS IS THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. GEORGE DODD. MR. DODD WAS BORN AND RAISED ON THIS VERY FARM, AND LIVED UNTIL HE WAS 8 YEARS OLD IN A BEAUTIFUL OLD ANTEBELLUM HOME WHICH BURNED DURING THAT YEAR OF HIS LIFE. THIS HOME WAS THEN BUILT BY HIS FATHER AT A COST OF \$1,000. IT IS BUILT OF HEART PINE. WHEN GEORGE DODD WAS 18 YEARS OF AGE HIS FATHER DIED AND GEORGE HAD TO TAKE OVER AND RUN THE FARM FOR HIS MOTHER. HOWEVER, IN 1929, LAND THAT HAD BEEN COTTONED AND TRUCK CROPPED TO DEATH GAVE UP THE GHOST, DUE TO WORN OUT SOIL DIERING MARKETS, AND THE FARM WAS LOST TO THE FEDERAL LAND BANK. GEORGE MARRIED HIS CHILDHOOD SWEETHEART WHO HAD GROWN UP IN THE SMYRNA COMMUNITY SIX MILES AWAY AND HAD ATTENDED

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-3
HOUSE

SLIDE FARM-4
LIVESTOCK

THE SAME CHURCH AS THE DODD FAMILY. AFTER THE FARM WAS LOST TO THE FEDERAL LAND BANK GEORGE DODD CONTINUED TO FARM IT FOR HIS MOTHER FOR ANOTHER TEN YEARS AS A RENTER, AND FINALLY IN 1939 WAS ABLE TO BUY THE LAND BACK FROM THE FEDERAL LAND BANK. BY THE WAY, IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT THIS PICTURE IS, IT'S AN OLD BLOCK USED BY THE LADIES TO MOUNT SIDE SADDLE IN DAYS LONG SINCE GONE. IT'S ABOUT ALL THAT REMAINS OF THE OLD ORIGINAL HOMESITE. GEORGE DODD SAYS HE WENT BROKE TRYING TO RAISE COTTON AND TRUCK CROPS DURING THE DEPRESSION SO HE GRADUALLY BEGAN TO SHIFT TO A LIVESTOCK PROGRAM. IT WASN'T UNTIL SON STURGIS, CAME OUT OF THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY IN 1946 AND RETURNED TO FARM WITH HIS FATHER, THAT THEY REALLY GOT INTO THE LIVESTOCK BUSINESS ON A LARGE SCALE, THOUGH. STURGIS, TOO MARRIED A CHILDHOOD SWEETHEART, A YOUNG LADY HE WENT TO HIGH SCHOOL WITH. MRS. STURGIS DODD GREW UP IN THE PLEASANT RIDGE COMMUNITY ABOUT 11 MILES AWAY. THERE'S A STORY THAT COULD BE TOLD OF THE YEARS LONG GONE, BUT THE REAL STORY OF TODAY'S PRESENT SUCCESSFUL FARM PROGRAM ON THE 932 ACRE DODD FARM STARTS WITH THE SHIFT TO LIVESTOCK AND TIMBER, AND THAT'S

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM 5
CATTLE

SLIDE FARM 6
BULL

THE STORY WE'LL TELL TODAY. THOUGH THE MAJOR EMPHASIS IS ON CATTLE, COTTON HAS ALWAYS BEEN RAISED ON THE DODD FARM AND STILL IS TODAY, THOUGH NOT IN AS GREAT A QUANTITY AS ONCE. THE LAST YEAR OF ANY REAL LARGE COTTON ACREAGE WAS IN 1939, EVEN THOUGH GEORGE AND STURGIS DODD HAVE RAISED MUCH MORE COTTON PER ACRE IN THE MORE RECENT YEARS. TODAY THEIR TOTAL COTTON CROP IS 14 ACRES AND IT'S ALL SHARE CROPPED, AS IS THEIR 21 ACRES OF CORN. WHERE THERE WERE ONCE 12 TENNANT FAMILIES ON THE FARM TODAY THERE ARE TWO. BUT THE REAL STORY IS GOOD GRAZING AND GOOD CATTLE. TODAY GEORGE DODD AND SON STURGIS HAVE 107 BROOD COWS, 26 HEIFERS, 16 STEERS, 4 BULLS AND 90 CALVES. THEY FOLLOW A COMMERCIAL COW AND CALF PROGRAM AND SELL ALL BUT THEIR REPLACEMENT HEIFERS AS MILK FAT CALVES. THEY CULL THE OLDER COWS FROM THEIR HERD AND SAVE ABOUT 15 OF THEIR BEST HEIFERS FOR HERD REPLACEMENT EACH YEAR. WHILE THEIR BROOD COWS ARE GRADE HEREFORDS AND SHORTHORNS, ALL OF THEM ARE MATED TO REGISTERED BULLS TO IMPROVE HERD QUALITY. DURING THE WAR GEORGE DODD LEARNED THE HARD WAY THE IMPORTANCE OF CALFHOOD

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-7
LOADING PENS

SLIDE FARM-8
HEADGATE

SLIDE FARM-9
PASTURE

SLIDE FARM-10
BACKRUB & POND

VACCINATION WHEN HE LOST 60 HEAD OF BROOD COWS TO BANGS DISEASE. SINCE THAT DAY ALL CALVES HAVE BEEN VACCINATED FOR BANGS AND THEY HAVE HAD A BANGS FREE HERD FOR MANY YEARS THEY HAVE TWO CATCH PENS WHICH ARE USED TO VACCINATE FOR BLACKLEG, FOR SPRAYING AND DEHORNING. ALL CATTLE ARE GOT UP AND SPRAYED FOUR OR FIVE TIMES EACH YEAR, AND THIS HEAD OF DEHORNING GATE HELPS TO DO THE JOB/QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY. GEORGE AND STURGIS DODD HAVE 400 ACRES IN PASTURE, 100 ACRES OF IT IMPROVED PASTURE. IT CONSISTS PRIMARILY OF BERMUDA, DALLIS AND CARPET GRASS, WHITE DUTCH CLOVER, FESCUE AND WILD WINTER PEAS. THE DODDS CLIP AND FERTILIZE ALL THEIR PASTURE LAND. HERE WE SEE MR. GEORGE DODD, COUNTY AGENT RANDLE AND STURGIS DODD LOOKING OVER ONE OF THE SEVEN IMPROVED PASTURES. IN ADDITION THE DODD'S PUT OUT ABOUT 20 ACRES OF OATS AND 50 ACRES OF RYE GRASS FOR TEMPORARY WINTER GRAZING. THE CATTLE GRAZE THE YEAR ROUND AND THIS IS SUPPLEMENTED WITH MEAL, HULLS, HAY AND CORN DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. THE DODD'S ALSO USE BACKRUBS STRATEGICALLY LOCATED IN ALL PASTURES FOR HORN FLY CONTROL. YOU WILL NOTE A BACKRUB IN THE

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-11
TIMBER

SLIDE FARM-12
TIMBER

SLIDE FARM-13
HARDWOODS

BACKGROUND WHICH IS IDEALLY LOCATED IN THE SHADE AND NEXT TO WATER. GEORGE DODD AND SON STURGIS HAVE 2 STOCK PONDS AND A CREEK THAT RUNS YEAR ROUND IN THEIR PASTURE LAND. ANOTHER IMPORTANT PART OF THE DODD FARM PROGRAM IS TIMBER. THEY HAVE ABOUT 400 ACRES IN TIMBER. 100 ACRES OF IT IS IMPROVED TIMBER WHICH IS PROTECTED FROM FIRE, THINNED AND SELECTIVELY HARVESTED. THEY TAKE GREAT CARE IN THEIR REFORESTATION PROGRAM AND HANDLE THEIR TIMBER LAND JUST LIKE ANY OTHER CROP. GEORGE DODD AT ONE TIME BOUGHT 80 ACRES OF THIS TIMBER LAND FOR \$1.50 PER ACRE. IN THE YEARS SINCE IT HAS RETURNED MANY TIMES THAT FIGURE. FROM THEIR TIMBER GEORGE AND STURGIS DODD HAVE BUILT SOME OF THEIR FARM BUILDINGS, AND HAVE CUT ENOUGH POSTS TO FENCE AND CROSS FENCE THEIR LAND. I'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT PINE TIMBER. THEY ALSO HAVE ABOUT 40 ACRES IN GOOD HARDWOOD TIMBER WHICH THEY ALSO PROTECT AND MANAGE FOR MAXIMUM PRODUCTION. GEORGE DODD AND HIS SON ENDEAVOR TO GET EVERY ACRE OF THEIR LAND IN THE CROP FOR WHICH IT IS BEST SUITED. THEY KEEP THEIR TIMBER ON THE RIDGES AND SOME OF THEIR OVERFLOW

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>SLIDE <u>FARM-14</u> <u>PECAN TREES</u></p> <p>SLIDE <u>FARM 15</u> <u>HENS</u></p> <p>SLIDE <u>FARM-16</u> <u>FOOD FREEZER</u></p> <p>SLIDE <u>FARM-17</u> <u>CANNED FOOD</u></p> <p>SLIDE <u>FARM 18</u> <u>KITCHEN STOVE</u></p>	<p>BOTTOM LAND IS EITHER IN TIMBER OR PASTURE. THEY DON'T PLAN TO INCREASE ROW CROPS, EXCEPT THEY WOULD LIKE A LITTLE MORE COTTON LAND TO HELP KEEP THEIR TENNANT LABOR ON THE FARM. ALL OF THEIR SOIL IS TESTED AND THEY FOLLOW EXPERIMENT STATION RECOMMENDATIONS AS THEY APLY TO THEIR FARMING OPERATION. THESE TWO DODD FAMILIES PRODUCE MOST EVERYTHING THE TWO FAMILIES NEED IN THE WAY OF FOOD. THEY HAVE ABOUT 50 PECAN TREES WHICH PRODUCE SOME FOR MARKET AND ALL THEY NEED FOR HOME USE. MRS. GEORGE DODD KEEPS ABOUT 125 FRYERS AND 15 LAYING HENS AND MRS. STURGIS DODD KEEPS ABOUT 30 FRYERS AND A HALF DOZEN LAYING HENS. BOTH MRS. DODD'S HAVE A HOME FREEZER AND MANY HOURS ARE SPENT KEEPING THEM WELL FILLED. EACH MRS. DODD FREEZES ABOUT 750 POUNDS OF FOOD AND MRS. STURGIS DODD CANNES ABOUT 150 QUARTS OR MORE OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES EACH YEAR, THEY HAVE BETWEEN THE TWO FAMILIES ABOUT A THIRD OF AN ACRE OF YEAR ROUND GARDEN AS WELL AS PEA, PEANUT AND POTATO PATCHES. BOTH MRS. DODD'S HAVE EVERY MODERN CONVENIENCE TO MAKE HOMEMAKING A PLEASURE. HERE WE SEE MRS. STURGIS DODD WORKING IN HER MODERN KITCHEN.</p>

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

SLIDE FARM 19
GARDEN

SLIDE FARM 20a
PEOPLE

AUDIO

MRS. GEORGE DODD LOVES TO COOK AND SEW FOR HER FAMILY, BUT I GUESS MOST OF ALL SHE LOVES TO WORK IN HER FLOWER GARDEN. WE HAVE FIRST HAND EVIDENCE OF HER LOVE FOR FLOWERS BY THIS BEAUTIFUL AND WELL KEPT FLOWER GARDEN THAT BORDERS HER HOME. WHEN I ASKED HER ABOUT HER PARTICULAR LIKES AND DISLIKES SHE TOLD ME SHE DEDN'T KNOW OF ANYTHING SHE DISLIKES. THE DODD'S WORK CLOSELY WITH THEIR COUNTY AGENT HERE WE SEE MR. AND MRS. GEORGE DODD AND SON STURGIS AS THEY VISIT IN THEIR HOME WITH COUNTY AGENT RANGLE WHO ACCOMPANIED ME TO THE DODD FARM. THEY HAVE MANY THINGS TO DISCUSS. FOR ONE THING, THE DODD'S ARE T.V.A. TEST DEMONSTRATORS. AS THE T.V.A. DEVELOPS NEW METHODS AND NEW MATERIALS THEY TRY THEM OUT AND KEEP A COMPLETE SET OF RECORDS, ON THE RESULTS. THERE'S MUCH MORE I COULD TELL YOU ABOUT THIS FINE COPIAH COUNTY FATHER AND SON FARM PROGRAM. I COULD TELL YOU THEY ARE COMPLETELY MECHANIZED, THAT THEY ARE WORKING TOWARD A HERD OF 150 BROOD COWS...THAT THEY HAVE CLEARED ABOUT 60 ACRES OF THEIR LAND AND HAVE KEPT IT CLEARED. THERE'S SO MUCH I COULD TELL YOU BUT TIME DOESN'T PERMIT.

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>CAMERA ON FAMILY</p>	<p>I DO WANT TO TELL YOU THOUGH OF THEIR WORK FOR THEIR COMMUNITY, THEIR COUNTY AND THEIR STATE, AND WHILE I'M DOING IT, I WANT YOU TO TAKE A LOOK AT THESE FINE FOLKS. THEY ALL BELONG TO THE SMYRNA BAPTIST CHURCH, A CHURCH THEY HAVE ALL GROWN UP IN...A CHURCH IN WHICH MR. GEORGE IS A DEACON, MRS. GEORGE DODD TEACHE THE INTERMEDIATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS, SON STURG TEACHES THE ADULT CLASS, AND HIS WIFE DOROTHY IS CHURCH PIANIST. GEORGE DODD AND SON STURGIS ALSO Paly AN IMPORTANT PART IN AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS IN THEIR COUNTY. MR. GEORGE DODD IS A DIRECTOR OF THE COUNTY CO-OP, A FORMER DIRECT OF THE COUNTY FARM BUREAU ORGANIZATION, IS A MEMBER OF THE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. SON STURGIS IS A DIRECTOR OF THE COPIAH COUNTY FARM BUREAU, A SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONER AND AN A.S.C. COUNTY COMMITTEEMAN. BOTH MR. DODD AND SON STURGIS ARE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION AND THE STOCKHOLDERS IN THE MISSISSIPPI CHEMICAL CORPORTATION. THERE'S EVEN MORE TO THIS STORY, BUT LET'S HEAR IT FROM THE FAMILY AND THEIR COUNTY AGENT AS TIME PERMITS.</p>